

Remarks:

Claims 1-7, 9-20, 22-28, and 30-33 are now pending in this application. Applicants have amended claims 1-7, 9-12, 14-18, 20, 22-28, 30, and 33 and cancelled claims 8, 21, and 29 to clarify the present invention. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application.

Applicants have amended the title along the lines suggested by the Examiner.

The Examiner objected to claims 10, 12, 24, and 33. Applicants have amended claim 10 to depend from claim 9. The amendment to claim 12 in the preliminary amendment deleted the "A" in front of "The". Applicants have amended claims 24 and 33 along the lines suggested by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to claims 10, 12, 24, and 33.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-29 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent publication 2002/0010734 to Ebersole et al. in view of U.S. patent publication 2002/0082498 to Wendt et al. The Examiner rejected claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ebersole et al. in view of Wendt et al. and further in view of U.S. patent 5,745,387 to Corby, Jr. et al. The Examiner rejected claims 31 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ebersole et al. in view of Wendt et al. and further in view of U.S. patent 5,815,411 to Ellenby et al.

The combination of Ebersole et al. and Wendt et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claims 1, 15 or 28 since, among other things, the combination does not suggest a system or method for remote programming of an industrial robot that includes a camera provided on the robot; local and remote registering units configured to generate graphics including information regarding movement of the robot, register the graphics on the image from the camera and provide a composite augmented image of the graphics and camera image; and local and remote specifying units configured to specify positions of the robot and, hence, the camera. Ebersole et al. suggests a system that includes local and remote stations and communication between the stations. Wendt et al. suggests a system for surgery that includes displaying to a surgeon an image of the surgical field with data such as diagnostic imaging superimposed on the surgical field. The local and remote stations suggested by Ebersole et al. nor the image-guided surgery suggested by Wendt et al. include registering units or specifying units as included in the present invention. Neither Ebersole et al. nor Wendt et al. suggest programming an industrial robot nor a solution for programming an industrial robot. Therefore, the combination of Ebersole et al. and Wendt et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claims 1, 15, 28 or claims 2-7, 9-14, 16-20, 22-27, 29 or 33, which depend from claims 1, 15, or 28.

The combination of Ebersole et al., Wendt et al. and Corby et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claim 30, which depends from claim 1, since, among other things, the combination does not suggest a system or method for remote programming of an industrial robot that includes a camera provided on the robot; local and remote registering units configured to generate graphics including information regarding movement of the robot, register the

graphics on the image from the camera and provide a composite augmented image of the graphics and camera image; and local and remote specifying units configured to specify positions of the robot and, hence, the camera. Corby et al. does not overcome the above-discussed shortcomings of Ebersole et al. and Wendt et al. For example, Corby et al. only suggests a system for displaying a manipulator arm and its surroundings. Corby et al. does not suggest registering units, display devices and specifying units located at remote and local sites. Therefore, the combination of Ebersole et al., Wendt et al. and Corby et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claim 30, which depends from claim 1.

The combination of Ebersole et al., Wendt et al. and Ellenby et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claims 31 and 32, which ultimately depend from claim 1, since, among other things, the combination does not suggest a system or method for remote programming of an industrial robot that includes a camera provided on the robot; local and remote registering units configured to generate graphics including information regarding movement of the robot, register the graphics on the image from the camera and provide a composite augmented image of the graphics and camera image; and local and remote specifying units configured to specify positions of the robot and, hence, the camera. Ellenby et al. does not overcome the above-discussed shortcomings of Ebersole et al. and Wendt et al. For example, Ellenby et al. only suggests a vision system that displays a view of an area and data stored in a database. Ellenby et al. does not suggest registering units, display devices and specifying units located at remote and local sites or programming a robot. Therefore, the combination of Ebersole et al., Wendt et al. and Ellenby et al. does not suggest the present invention as recited in claims 31 and 32.

In view of the above, the references relied upon in the office action do not suggest patentable features of the present invention. Therefore, the references relied upon in the office action do not make the present invention obvious. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections based upon the cited references.

In conclusion, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this case and issuance of the Notice of Allowance.

If an interview would advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants respectfully urge the Examiner to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The undersigned authorizes the Commissioner to charge fee insufficiency and credit overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 8/25/08


Eric J. Franklin, Reg. No. 37,134
Attorney for Applicants
Venable LLP
575 7th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004
Telephone: (202) 344-4936